We Claim:

1.   1.   A method in a computing system for managing inventory, the method

2.   comprising:

3.   extracting inventory transaction information in a first form that is associated

4.   with a first source computerized inventory management system;

5.   converting the inventory transaction information in the first form into inventory

6.   transaction information that is in a second intermediate form; and

7.   converting the inventory transaction information in the second intermediate

8.   form into inventory transaction information in a target form that

9.   corresponds to a target computerized inventory management system.

1.   2.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

2.   using the inventory transaction information in the target form to perform at

3.   least one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-

4.   implemented acts comprising:

5.   creating a new inventory transaction record in the target computerized

6.   inventory management system; and

7.   updating an existing inventory transaction record in the target

8.   computerized inventory management system.

1.   3.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

2.   extracting inventory transaction information in a third form that is associated

3.   with a second source computerized inventory management system

4.   that is distinct from the first source computerized inventory

5.   management system;

6   converting the inventory transaction information in the third form into inventory

7   transaction information that is in the second intermediate form;

8   converting the inventory transaction information in the second intermediate

9   form into inventory transaction information in the target form; and

10   using the inventory transaction information in the target form to perform at

11   least one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-

12   implemented acts comprising:

13   creating a new inventory transaction record in the target computerized

14   inventory management system; and

15   updating an existing inventory transaction record in the target

16   computerized inventory management system.

1   4.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the second intermediate form includes a list

2   of inventory transactions class with a hierarchy of data elements, wherein the

3   hierarchy of data elements includes a plurality of inventory transaction

4   elements which include other elements.

1   5.   The method of Claim 4, wherein each of the plurality of inventory transaction

2   elements includes:

3   an inventory transaction identifier;

4   a base data element for defining:

5   a transaction comments element;

6   a transaction date;

7   a transaction quantity of items;

8   a transaction time;

9   a transaction type code; and

10   a transaction unit of measure code;

11   a list of identifier data element for defining identifier data that is specific to a

12   product or item.;

13   a location data element for defining a destination location data element and a

14   source location data element;

15   a related product element for defining a product or item identifier;

16   a related document data element for defining a related purchase order

17   element; and

18   a custom data element for defining customized attributes for the inventory

19   transaction information.

1   6.   The method of Claim 5, wherein:

2   the identifier data element includes a product serial number or an item serial

3   number;

4   the destination location data element includes a destination bucket code

5   element and a destination inventory location identifier element;

6   the source location data element includes a source bucket code element and

7   a source inventory location identifier; and

8   the related purchase order element includes a purchase order element for

9   defining purchase-order-type elements that include:

10   a common object row identifier element;

11   a purchase order base data element wherein the purchase order base

12   data element includes a purchase order number;

13   a list of purchase order line item element, wherein the list of purchase

14   order line item element includes a plurality of purchase order

15   line items; and

16   a purchase order custom data element.

1   7.   The method of Claim 6, wherein each of the plurality of purchase order line

2   items includes:

3   a purchase order line item number identifier element;

4   a purchase order line item base data element; and

5   a purchase order line item custom data element.

1   8.   The method of Claim 7, wherein the purchase order line item base data

2   element includes a purchase order line item number.

1   9.   A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions

2   for managing inventory, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of

3   instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to

4   perform:

5   extracting inventory transaction information in a first form that is associated

6   with a first source computerized inventory management system;

7   converting the inventory transaction information in the first form into inventory

8   transaction information that is in a second intermediate form; and

9   converting the inventory transaction information in the second intermediate

10   form into inventory transaction information in a target form that

11   corresponds to a target computerized inventory management system.

1   10.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, further comprising:

2   using the inventory transaction information in the target form to perform at

3   least one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-

4   implemented acts comprising:

5   creating a new inventory transaction record in the target computerized

6   inventory management system; and

7   updating an existing inventory transaction record in the target

8   computerized inventory management system.

1 11. The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, further comprising:

2   extracting inventory transaction information in a third form that is associated

3   with a second source computerized inventory management system

4   that is distinct from the first source computerized inventory

5   management system;

6   converting the inventory transaction information in the third form into inventory

7   transaction information that is in the second intermediate form;

8   converting the inventory transaction information in the second intermediate

9   form into inventory transaction information in the target form; and

10   using the inventory transaction information in the target form to perform at

11   least one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-

12   implemented acts comprising:

13   creating a new inventory transaction record in the target computerized

14   inventory management system; and

15   updating an existing inventory transaction record in the target .

16   computerized inventory management system.

1 12. The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, wherein the second intermediate

2   form includes a list of inventory transactions class with a hierarchy of data

3   elements.

1 13. The computer-readable medium of Claim 12, wherein the hierarchy of data

2   elements includes a plurality of inventory transaction elements which include

3   other elements.

1 14.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory transaction elements includes an inventory transaction identifier.

1 15.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory transaction elements includes a base data element for defining:

3   a transaction comments element;

4   a transaction date;

5   a transaction quantity of items;

6   a transaction time;

7   a transaction type code; and

8   a transaction unit of measure code.

1 16.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory transaction elements includes a list of identifier data element for

3   defining identifier data that is specific to a product or item.

1 17.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory transaction elements includes a location data element for defining a

3   destination location data element and a source location data element.

1 18.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory transaction elements includes a related product element for defining

3   a product or item identifier.

1 19.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory transaction elements includes a related document data element for

3   defining a related purchase order element.

1 20. The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of
2   inventory transaction elements includes a custom data element for defining
3   customized attributes for the inventory transaction information.

1 21. The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the identifier data
2   element includes a product serial number or an item serial number.

1 22. The computer-readable medium of Claim 17, wherein the destination location
2   data element includes a destination bucket code element, which in turn
3   includes a destination inventory location identifier.

1 23. The computer-readable medium of Claim 17, wherein the source location
2   data element includes a source bucket code element, which in turn includes a
3   source inventory location identifier.

1 24. The computer-readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the related purchase
2   order element includes a purchase order element for defining purchase order
3   elements that include:
4   a common object row identifier element;
5   a purchase order base data type element;
6   a list of purchase order line item element; and
7   a purchase order custom data element.

1 25. The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the purchase order
2   base data type element includes a purchase order number.

1 26. The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the list of purchase
2   order line item element includes a plurality of purchase order line items.

1　27.　The computer-readable medium of Claim 26, wherein each of the plurality of

2　　　　purchase order line items includes:

3　　　　　　　a purchase order line item number identifier element;

4　　　　　　　a purchase order line item base data element; and

5　　　　　　　a purchase order line item custom data element.

1　28.　The computer-readable medium of Claim 27, wherein the purchase order line

2　　　　item base data element includes a purchase order line item number.

3　29.　A data structure for managing inventory, the data structure comprising a list of

4　　　　inventory transactions class with a hierarchy of data elements, wherein the

5　　　　hierarchy of data elements includes a plurality of inventory transaction

6　　　　elements which include other elements.

1　30.　The data structure of Claim 29, wherein each of the plurality of inventory

2　　　　transaction elements includes:

3　　　　an inventory transaction identifier;

4　　　　a base data element for defining:

5　　　　　　　a transaction comments element;

6　　　　　　　a transaction date;

7　　　　　　　a transaction quantity of items;

8　　　　　　　a transaction time;

9　　　　　　　a transaction type code; and

10　　　　　　a transaction unit of measure code;

11　　　a list of identifier data element for defining identifier data that is specific to a

12　　　　　　product or item.;

13   a location data element for defining a destination location data element and a

14   source location data element;

15   a related product element for defining a product or item identifier;

16   a related document data element for defining a related purchase order

17   element; and

18   a custom data element for defining customized attributes for the inventory

19   transaction information.

1   31.   The data structure of Claim 30, wherein:

2   the identifier data element includes a product serial number or an item serial

3   number;

4   the destination location data element includes a destination bucket code

5   element and a destination inventory location identifier element;

6   the source location data element includes a source bucket code element and

7   a source inventory location identifier; and

8   the related purchase order element includes a purchase order element for

9   defining purchase-order-type elements that include:

10   a common object row identifier element;

11   a purchase order base data element wherein the purchase order base

12   data element includes a purchase order number;

13   a list of purchase order line item element, wherein the list of purchase

14   order line item element includes a plurality of purchase order

15   line items; and

16   a purchase order custom data element.

1   32.   The data structure of Claim 31, wherein each of the plurality of purchase

2   order line items includes:

3   a purchase order line item number identifier element;

4   a purchase order line item base data element; and

5   a purchase order line item custom data element.

1   33.   The data structure of Claim 32, wherein the purchase order line item base

2   data element includes a purchase order line item number.

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